

SUMMARY MINUTES

ABAG-CALFED Task Force

Water Management Sub-Committee Meeting

September 15, 2003

Conference Room 171, 101 8th Street, Oakland CA 94607-4756

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Vice-Chairman James Pretti called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. with introductions and welcomed all members present

Attendance was as follows:

Members Present

Amy Fowler
Barbara Kondylis
Bill Keene
Carl Morrison
Cynthia Murray
Doug Wallace
Ellen Levin
Fiona Ma
Fran Garland
Grant Davis
Greg Zlotnick
Ira Ruskin (Chairman)
Jake Mackenzie
James Pretti (Vice-Chairman)
Jean Auer
Katy Foulkes
Lisa Renton
Mark Boucher
Nicole Sandkulla
Pam Nicolai
Roberta Goulart
Vince Wong

Jurisdiction

Santa Clara Valley Water District
County of Solano
Sonoma County Water Agency
Zone 7 Water Agency
County of Marin
East Bay Municipal Utility District
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
City and County of San Francisco
Contra Costa Water District
The Bay Institute
Santa Clara Valley Water District
City of Redwood City
City of Rohnert Park
Contra Costa Water District
Friends of the Estuary
East Bay Municipal Utility District
Sonoma County Water Agency
Contra Costa County
Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency
Marin Municipal Water District
Contra Costa County Water District
Zone 7 Water Agency

ABAG/CALFED Staff Present

Henry Gardner ABAG
Kathleen Van Velsor ABAG

Terry Bursztynsky
Vina Maharaj

ABAG
ABAG

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF WATER MGMT. SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES OF JUNE 23, 2003

There was a general consensus to approve the Summary Minutes of July 21, 2003 Water Management Sub-Committee meeting.

Chairman Ira Ruskin joined the meeting at this point.

REPORT FROM THE IRWMP WORKING GROUP ON PROGRESS TOWARD AN INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLANNING EFFORT

It was noted that the Chair of the IRWMP Working Group, Cindy Darling, was not present to provide a report from the group's last meeting of August 15, 2003. However, a draft discussion paper was provided to the Committee members.

Amy Fowler of SCVWD reported that BAWAC (Bay Area Water Users Association) had sent letters to ABAG, BASMAA (Bay Area Storm Water Management Agencies Association) and BACWA (Bay Area Clean Water Agencies) inviting them to join BAWAC in their efforts to compile Bay Area's functional plans for an Integrated Regional Water Management Plan. (Copies of the letter were available to members.) She said that BAWAC would be compiling a course of water supply and water quality elements for the potential IRWMP. BAWAC was inviting BACWA to compile their functional plans on their treatment plants, and BASMAA to compile their functional plans on storm water management and flood control programs. Fowler said BAWAC was also inviting Eugene Leong to have ABAG represent local government and entities that may have watershed and wetlands management functions and/or other management functions that are not captured within one of those representative agencies and entities.

Fowler said that both BACWA and BASMAA have sent their responses back stating they are interested in joining BAWAC's efforts. BAWAC is in the process of setting up meetings with them to discuss, in more detail, the scope and undertaking of the tasks.

Fowler further made a point to clarify that letters were sent out to the four North Bay Water Agencies, Marin, Sonoma, Solano and Napa inviting them to join BAWAC. She said the overall objective was to produce a plan that would integrate across all of the categories of water supply, water quality as well as watershed management functions so that linkages could be made between, for instance, water supply and wastewater management (maybe in the form of recycling programs) or linkages with habitat restoration and watershed management. The goal was to take a first step to integrate these categories.

Henry Gardner of ABAG requested clarification on the purpose of the ABAG-CALFED Task Force and the Water Management Sub-Committee. He said he understood that the effort which

BAWAC was suggesting to undertake should have come out of the ABAG-CALFED Task Force and/or the Water Management Sub-Committee. He added that while the data gathering is absolutely essential and the pairing of plans is a very first and preliminary step, he does not think it was going to get to where it needs to go in terms of an integrated plan.

Ellen Levin of SFPUC provided some historical perspective of the process. She said that the need for an IRWMP has come out of Proposition 50 which was passed by voters. In order to qualify for the funding, one would have to be a part of an integrated plan. It doesn't say that one entity in the region has to produce the plan, for example, it does not give ABAG-CALFED Task Force, BAWAC, BACWA or Sonoma County Water Agency the authority to write the plan. One water supplier could write the plan with another and that would be an integrated plan.

Levin said that Randy Poole from Sonoma County Water Agency who saw an opportunity, came to the last Task Force meeting to request participation. BAWAC decided that as a responsible agency for water management in the Bay Area they should have a leading role in writing the water management section of the IRWMP. The waste water and storm water agencies have developed a similar coalition to BAWAC and they sit and talk about management functions and wastewater management responsibilities within the Bay Area. They have pulled their resources and interests together and those would be the appropriate starting points.

Levin said that the BAWAC's proposal was still on the table for discussion and if ABAG was not willing to participate then there should be a formal letter from ABAG stating their position.

In response Gardner said, "that was not stated nor implied."

Bill Keene reminded members that back at the last Task Force meeting on August 18, there was discussion that the Water Management Sub-Committee come back with some type of proposal at its November meeting. The Water Management Sub-Committee appointed a working group to draft some principles and agree on some concepts as a first step. The working group had met on August 15 and Cindy Darling, the Chair of the group, had produced a draft discussion paper for discussion at today's meeting.

Roberta Goulart commented on her concerns about land use planning agencies' involvement in the IRWMP process. She said that the ABAG-CALFED Task Force was an attempt to get the land use planning agencies more involved because where the water agencies are historically always involved in Calfed, the land use planning agencies aren't and they need to be. Goulart said that she was feeling a little bit out of loop as she does not see a real place for the land use planning agencies in the BAWAC's proposal. She also had concerns about how watershed management, a function which falls under her planning department, would be incorporated into the IRWMP plan.

Amy Fowler responded stating that all of BAWAC's integrated water management plans use the appropriate local government planning agencies' master plans as a basis. For example, SCVWD used ABAG's planning projections to do their water demand projections. She said that land use planning is already the baseline in water providers' planning documents. Fowler said that

BAWAC recognizes that a lot of the watershed management HCP planning as well as other functions quite often fall under local jurisdictions, be it a county or a city. BAWAC is envisioning that ABAG would provide an umbrella representation or a place at the table to address those entities. Fowler explained that since BAWAC is a coalition of water supply agencies they, together with the North Bay Water Agencies, will collectively handle the water supply elements of the IRWMP. She is envisioning that the communities in the Bay Area that do not have a representation would come under ABAG or they could join forces with the existing water supply entities in addressing the element. She mentioned that SCVWD has a major function in providing watershed management.

Katy Foulkes agreed with Fowler saying that it is important to recognize that there were elements which do not fit under any one of the specialties and that it would be necessary for ABAG to coordinate all of those elements under its umbrella.

Chairman Ruskin said that it was brought to his attention a couple of months ago that budget was limited at ABAG, that there was no more staff money at ABAG under whose umbrella the Task Force and its committees were operating.

Gardner mentioned that he was still unsure about the role of the ABAG-CALFED Task Force and the Water Management Sub-Committee in this process. He said he thought the ABAG-CALFED Task Force was supposed to be encouraging the dialogue, coordinating efforts, serving as the convener and paving the way for a planning framework.

Bill Keene responded by saying that ABAG had presented a draft resolution to the Water Management Sub-Committee some time back. The resolution mentioned lack of funds at ABAG. He said that BAWAC's proposal in this respect was an alternative to that resolution. He indicated that Terry Bursztynsky had encouraged them to come back with a counter proposal.

Levin requested Gardner to provide his visions of how ABAG should participate in this process. She invited members who felt that ABAG is an umbrella organization in this process, to get that on the table.

James Pretti reminded the members that this process will be a long, tortuous and dynamic process. He said that nobody knew what the final product would look like. He agreed that BAWAC had taken a very ambitious step to try and do this, which will take a lot of time and money.

Jake Mackenzie suggested that the Water Management Sub-Committee endorse BAWAC's letter and provide a statement to the ABAG CALFED Task Force that the letter reflected the desire of the Water Management Sub-Committee.

Greg Zlonick agreed with Mackenzie about endorsing the BAWAC letter to the Task Force. He suggested that the Water Management Sub-Committee discuss and make a recommendation to the ABAG-CALFED Task Force about ABAG taking the lead role in getting the land use entities together.

Barbara Kondylis questioned that if the water agencies were doing the water component part of the work, then are the sanitation agencies going to get together and do their flood control part?

Levin responded saying that that was not what BAWAC was proposing. BAWAC was proposing that a technical committee be developed with representatives from each of the functional areas, for example, a representative from the water agencies, a representative from the waste water agencies, a representative from the storm water agencies and similarly a representative from ABAG and so on. The technical committee would be responsible for getting all the information into the plan. When Kondylis questioned how the sanitation agencies would do this if the water agencies were taking the lead role, Levin said they would do a joint proposal. Levin said that BAWAC was offering to provide the staffing for the water section part of the work. Eventually, when the work has been completed, the plan would come through the Water Management Sub-Committee to be presented to the ABAG-CALFED Task Force. Kondylis also noted John Gioia's remarks in the record of the last WMSC meeting – that regional and local land use issues are an essential part of any IRWMP.

A discussion started on the subject of timelines involved in terms of Prop. 50 funding. Fiona Ma questioned whether there was any way the Task Force could get their application in earlier and get the commitment for the money faster rather than waiting to submit. She suggested that some input be sent to DWR very soon.

Fowler said that the BAWAC letter did not address the process for lobbying for funding for the region. While BAWAC had suggested starting with the technical work, it was tasking the Water Management Sub-Committee to start the discussion on the next phase of the process, i.e. the lobbying for the funding part.

Chairman Ruskin summed up the discussion up to this point saying that there seemed to be consensus that the Water Management Sub-Committee endorse the BAWAC letter to the ABAG-CALFED Task Force stating that it reflected the desire of the sub-committee. There was also consensus that land use would be provided through ABAG. Ruskin suggested that as the technical work proceeds, that it proceed in such a way that whatever is most feasible for funding be brought to fruition in time for funding and that it not get pushed aside for long-term discussion. He said that agencies should proceed in good faith and understand that this is a joint effort.

Chairman Ruskin questioned members about the fastest way to present criterion to the State. He also asked members what they thought was the fastest way that the post-technical committee procedures be delineated. ABAG's Kathleen Van Velsor asked for a point of clarification re: criterion — Were these to be criteria for project funding or criteria for an IRWMP?

Amy Fowler recommended that the Water Management Sub-Committee forward to the Task Force in November an appreciation for the technical work getting started as described in the BAWAC letter. Secondly, that the Water Management Sub-Committee be tasked with starting a discussion

of the next phase of a process beyond the technical work. For eg. The process of lobbying for funding for the region.

Jean Auer emphasized that the results of the technical work come back to the Water Management Sub-Committee. She said that ABAG-CALFED Task Force should continue to have the overseer role. Grant Davis agreed with Auer saying that the Water Management Sub-Committee needs to go on record and send a message to Calfed stating that the Bay Area is positively taking initiative to create an integrative plan and that much of the detail is currently being worked out.

Fiona Ma added that the sub-committee also needs to move forward giving input on the funding guidelines. She said she was concerned that if Northern California is not at the table that Southern California will write the guidelines which would fit into what their plan was. She suggested that as a committee, there needs to be a push for going forward with guidelines.

Pam Nicolai said she was concerned that some key players in the technical process were not present at the table.

Bill Keene said that adding another sub-committee was duplicative — should use existing IRWMP working group.

Chairman Ruskin re-summarized the discussions at this point. It was generally agreed and there were no objections noted on the following:

- A letter of thanks and support to BAWAC for their letter from the Water Management Sub-Committee.
- A recommendation be made to the ABAG-CALFED Task Force in November that the Task Force with the leadership of the Water Management Sub-Committee develop recommended criteria for funding for Prop. 50.
- A recommendation be made to the ABAG-CALFED Task Force in November that the Water Management Sub-Committee come up with a plan for the next steps on integration after the BAWAC Technical Committee comes up with its product, start working on a potential draft of the plan even before the November meeting, and develop a quick plan on who should lobby, when and where.
- The Water Management Sub-Committee start inviting other interested parties right away.
- The current working group sub-committee which was formed at the last meeting, be expanded to include BACWA, BASMAA and all others who wants to join. There was a suggestion to include business perspectives.

- Staff will work immediately towards convening an expanded working group as follows:

1. Amy Fowler, SCVWD
2. Beth Huning, SF Bay Joint Venture
3. Bill Keene, Sonoma County Water Agency
4. Brian Campbell, EBMUD
5. Carol Thornton, SF Estuary Project
6. Cindy Darling, CALFED-Bay Delta Authority – Chair
7. Douglas Wallace, EBMUD
8. Ellen Levin, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
9. Gerry Raycraft, ABAG
10. Grant Davis, The Bay Institute
11. Henry Gardner, ABAG
12. Jack Gibson, Marin Municipal Water District
13. John Brosnan, SF Estuary Project
14. Julia Maclay, SCVWD
15. Kathleen Van Velsor, ABAG
16. Nicole Sandkulla, BAWSCA
17. Randy Poole, Sonoma County Water Agency
18. Roberta Goulart, Contra Costa County Water Agency
19. Vince Wong, Zone 7 Water Agency

REPORT ON THE BAY-DELTA AUTHORITY PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 11, RE: REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLANNING GUIDELINES

Doug Wallace and Jean Auer provided brief highlights from the September 11 Public Advisory Committee Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

/vmaharaj